10/31/93 G.T.

MILITARY

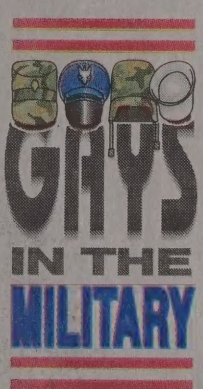
Court gives gay plan go-ahead

Measure still challenged

Knight-Ridder Newspapers

WASHINGTON — President Clinton's compromise policy on gays in the military can go into effect while its constitutionality is being challenged, the Supreme Court ruled Friday.

In a one-paragraph order without dissent, the justices suspended a Los Angeles judge's sweeping, nationwide ban on all discrimination against gays and lesbians in military service.



The Pentagon requested the suspension, arguing that the judge had exceeded his authority and that the ban interfered with military management and discipline.

The decision allows the Pentagon to introduce a new presidential policy that was dubbed "don't ask, don't tell, don't pursue" by the administration.

The policy, the result of a compromise with Congress and the Pentagon, professes to punish only homosexual conduct, not homosexual status.

The policy would prevent recruits from being asked about their sexual orientation. But it would allow those who acknowledge their homosexuality to be dismissed, unless they can show they don't engage in homosexual acts. The policy also forbids military investigators from using rumor and speculation to begin "witch hunts" to track down suspected gays and get them kicked out.

"We are disappointed," said Peri Jude Radecic, executive director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force. "The military has been without a gay (policy) for close to a month with no adverse effects. Gays and lesbians serve their country very well. Eventually, we'll get this overturned."

Until the new policy is in place, a similar interim policy introduced in January has been reinstated, Pentagon officials said. It, too, doesn't permit recruits to be asked whether they are homosexual or bisexual. But it requires that military personnel identified as homosexuals be placed on reserve status.

The Pentagon argued that Terry Hatter, a liberal federal judge in Los Angeles, lacked the authority to ban the Pentagon's longtime policy against homosexual conduct. Hatter concluded that the policy violated the 14th Amendment's guarantee of equal protection of the laws.

For now, Hatter's order will apply only to Keith Meinhold, the sailor who challenged the Pentagon's policy, and the government's appeal of the order will go forward.

More than 3,500 service personnel have been discharged under the military's regulations on homosexuality since 1989.

pessimistic about prospects for economic reform and democracy, according to a poll made public Friday. A solid majority say they don't think Boris Yeltsin deserves another term as president./**A13**

CITY/REGION

▶ **AGREEMENT REACHED:** Kids Limo Inc. and Yellow Cab of Colorado Springs have reached an agreement that allows the tyke transportation service to stay in business./**B3**

OPINION

▶ **HAITI POLICY:** The Clinton administration is blindly championing ousted Haitian President Jean-Bertrand Aristide despite warnings about his instability from all quarters, including the intelligence community, writes columnist Robert Novak./**B5**

BUSINESS

▶ **CARGO FLIGHTS COMING INTO SPRINGS:** Colorado Springs businesses got a boost Friday when Federal Express Corp. said it will begin daily air cargo trips to the city's airport./**B6**

SPORTS

▶ **NBC SETS TERMS FOR NFL CONTRACT:** The president of NBC Sports, Dick Ebersol, says that unless the NFL reduces its revenue demands, the network will not telecast professional football games next season./**C2**

LIFESTYLE

▶ **HEALING PSYCHOLOGICAL WOUNDS:** Rapha founder Robert McGee believes Christianity and psychotherapy combine for a powerful healing force./**D1**

▶ **NO TOIL OR TROUBLE:** What brings love to the kitchen, keeps pots from boiling over and coffee from tasting bad? Kitchen witches, at least according to European tradition./**D1**

LIFESTY

Since 1969, Jim hard at work b made of rock c San Isabel Natio than a few eyeb

CITY/REG
The Untold Stor Washington Pos discloses dozen provides a look involved in the v

SPECIAL S
races to city ele provides a guide Tuesday's elect

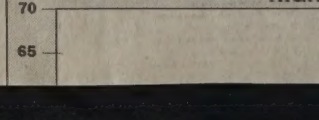
BUSINESS
growth will slow Springs, but the vibrant for most 1995 isn't as c

LOCAL FORECAST

Today: Sunny to partly cloudy; still quite chilly. High 40.
Tonight: Clear and cold. Low 20.
Sunday: Plenty of sunshine; much milder in the afternoon. High 56, low 30.
Monday: Clouds and sun; windy; chance of a shower late. High 60, low 26.
Tuesday: Colder with a chance of some snow or flurries. High 38, low 22.
Wednesday: Mostly cloudy and cold; snow showers possible. High 34, low 18.

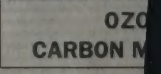
7-DAY TRENDS

HIGHS



STATIST

AIR Q
(3 p.m. F



OZO
CARBON M

24-HOUR

Time	Temp
Thursday	
6 p.m.	50
7 p.m.	46
8 p.m.	42
9 p.m.	37
10 p.m.	31